



**SENATE COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE AND CONSUMER PROTECTION**

February 24, 2010, 10:00 A.M.

Room 229

**(Testimony is 1 page long)**

**TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SB 2423**

Chair Baker and members of the Committee:

The Blue Planet Foundation supports Senate Bill 2423, a measure which extends to association boards of directors the right to install wind and solar energy devices on common elements of condominiums. This common sense measure will encourage further adoption of energy—and money—saving clean energy devices and move Hawai'i closer to energy independence.

Blue Planet believes Hawai'i's clean energy future will be largely decentralized and diversified, meaning our power will be generated from a variety of sources across the islands. Putting our rooftop spaces to work collecting solar energy will likely be a significant source of tomorrow's energy. The most populated parts of the state receive between 450 and 500 calories of solar radiation per square centimeter every day<sup>1</sup>. To put into perspective, an average rooftop space of 1100 square feet receives the energy equivalent of approximately 15 gallons of gasoline daily. Common areas of condominiums or other shared living structures are likely much larger and could produce substantial amounts of power—if they are put to work.

Enabling associations to install solar or wind devices or lease their common area space for such a purpose is smart clean energy policy.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

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<sup>1</sup> State of Hawai'i (2003). Hawaii Statewide GIS Program Solar Radiation Maps.